

WANDERERS STOP 'STONES'

Wycombe Wanderers 2,
Leytonstone 0.
By "NOVA"

AFTER a gruelling Isthmian League match on a rain-soaked pitch at Loakes Park on Saturday, Wycombe Wanderers emerged with two more valuable points against championship-chasing Leytonstone.

It was a heartening performance by the Wanderers, who deserved more than two goals. Leytonstone could never match the Wanderers' pull at wing half, where Gale and Thomas worked magnificently, keeping wingers Horseman and Worley well supplied with the ball.

Horseman was particularly effective. His long snaking runs, beating men with ease, were a delight to watch. With Ivor Ashby working hard but with little luck, the score-sheet remained blank at half-time, when in fact Wycombe should have been in the lead.

Paul Bates, not yet at his best but still a danger man in front of goal, had two shots well saved by Dereck Griffin. George Pullin, rather slow and ineffective in this game, had a good cross shot pushed over the bar and a Worley cross flashed across the face

of the goal with no-one able to touch it.

But it was not all Wycombe by any means. Centre-forward Louis Manze kept John Fisher fully occupied with some spirited dashes.

Wycombe's first goal came after 65 minutes from a delightful move between Horseman, Bates and Worley. Wycombe's skipper wasted no time in squaring the ball on to the head of Ashby, who crashed it home.

Wycombe should have increased the lead handsomely. During one hectic period the ball bobbed about in the "Stones" six-yard box for about three minutes. But it was not until just before the final whistle that they scored their second goal.

Worley placed a free-kick hard and low across the goalmouth, where the extended foot of Pullin transferred it to the net—for his first goal for the club.

WORLEY PEPS WYCOMBE

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WYCOMBE WANDERERS' ability to finish strongly after a slow start, dealt a crushing blow to Leytonstone's Isthmian League championship hopes.

Defences dominated the uninspiring, goalless first half, and marksmanship on the rain-soaked pitch was limited largely to long-range speculative shots.

Most of these came from Bates, back at centre forward after two months out of the game, for Wycombe; and from the dashing Louis Manze, a persistent raider as leader of the Leytonstone attack.

Leytonstone, handicapped in attack by an injury which left inside left Roger Day limping, were forced on to the defensive in the second half, but the smart interceptions of Ron Hill, Wood, and Allen kept Wycombe at bay until the last 25 minutes.

Then left winger Horseman put Wycombe ahead with a cool header from a centre by Worley, the outstanding forward on the field; and for the rest of the game the rejuvenated Wycombe forwards, with Thomas and Gale backing up well at wing half, dictated the play.

After right back Allen had stopped a Worley drive on the goal line, Pullin smashed in a second, again from Worley, two minutes before the end.